



— BUREAU OF —
RECLAMATION

Small Storage Program

Program Update

February 22, 2023

Getting Started

- Please note your cameras and microphones are muted.
- Questions and comments can be posted in the chat, or attendees can use the raise hand function during the Q&A.
 - Facilitators will unmute you when the time comes to ask your question.
- A copy of the slides will be available on our website:
<https://www.usbr.gov/smallstorage/>



Small Storage Program

- The Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act, known as the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL) enacted November 15, 2021.
 - Provides \$100 million from Fiscal Years 2022 to 2026 to establish and implement a new competitive grant program for small water storage and groundwater storage projects.
- Small storage projects are defined by:
 - Water storage capacity of not less than **200*** acre-feet and not more than 30,000 acre-feet and:
 - increases surface or groundwater storage; or
 - conveys water, directly or indirectly, to or from surface water or groundwater storage

**as amended by Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2023 (P.L. 117-328)*



Small Storage Program

- **Eligible Non-Federal project sponsors:**
 - will include a state, regional, or local authority; Indian tribe or tribal organization; or other entities such as a water district or water association within the 17 Western States, Alaska, or Hawaii.
- **Funding:**
 - Awards are limited to the lesser of \$30 million or 25% of project costs.
 - Funding will be allocated through a competitive process.



Small Storage Program

- Priority shall be given to projects that meet 1 or more of the following criteria:
 - Projects that are likely to provide more reliable water supply
 - Projects that are likely to increase water management flexibility
 - Projects that are regional in nature
 - Projects with multiple stakeholders
 - Projects with multiple benefits



The Secretary of the Interior must determine:

- the feasibility study, and the process under which the study was developed, complies with Federal laws (including regulations) applicable to feasibility studies of small storage projects.
- the project is technically and financially feasible in accordance with the guidelines developed and reclamation law
- the project provides a federal benefit
- there is sufficient non-Federal funding to complete the project



How to Become Eligible for Small Storage Project Funding

- A completed feasibility study must be submitted and found to meet all requirements of Reclamation's Directives and Standards.

Directive & Standard	Reference
Small Surface Water and Groundwater Storage Projects Feasibility Study Review Process (CMP TRMR-127)	https://www.usbr.gov/recman/temporary_releases/cmpt_rmr-127.pdf
Review Process Flow Chart (CMP TRMR-127 Appendix A)	https://www.usbr.gov/recman/temporary_releases/cmpt_rmr-127-AppA.pdf



Small Storage Feasibility Study Requirements

- **Report Contents:**
 1. **Introductory Information**
 2. **Statement of Problems and Needs**
 3. **Small Storage Opportunities**
 4. **Description of Alternatives**
 5. **Economic Analysis**
 6. **Selection of the Proposed Project**
 7. **Risk and Uncertainty**
 8. **Environmental Consideration and Potential Effects**
 9. **Legal and Institutional Requirements**
 10. **Sufficient Non-Federal Funding**
- **Flexibility Concerning Format**



Next Steps

Submission of Small Storage Feasibility Studies

- Approved feasibility studies are required in order to apply for future funding opportunities.
- Reclamation accepts studies at any time, however the review process can take up to 180 days.

Notice of Funding Opportunity

- The Fiscal Year 2024 NOFO is currently under development.
- Anticipated release Summer/Fall 2023, with awards in 2024.
 - Will be posted to Small Storage Program Website:
 - <https://www.usbr.gov/smallstorage/>



Small Storage Program Resources

- Small Water Storage Program Website (including link to subscribe for more information):
 - <https://www.usbr.gov/smallstorage/>
- Additional funding opportunities can be found at www.grants.gov
- Program Coordinator:
 - Carrie Diroll, cdiroll@usbr.gov or (303) 445-2835
 - Small Storage Mailbox, bor-sha-smallstorage@usbr.gov



Questions?



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